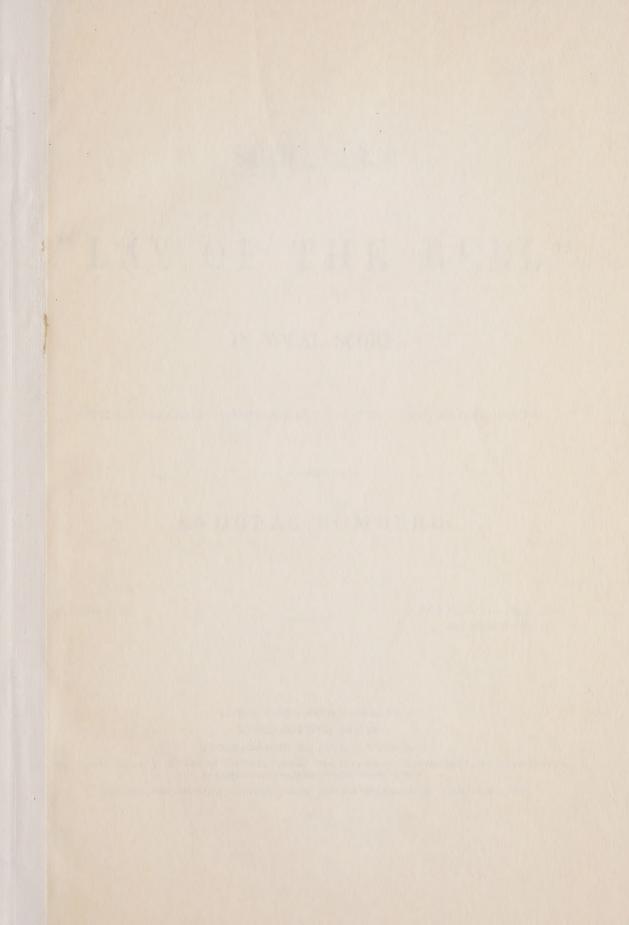


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Das Lied von der Glocke.
Organ-vocal score, English
Schiller's Lay of the bell







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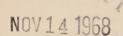
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SCHILLER'S

LAY OF THE BELL.

SOLO.—Bass.—(THE MASTER BELL-FOUNDER.)

Firmly by the eartn surrounded
Stands our mould to form the Bell;
Hopes, my men, on you are founded,
That this cast will all excel:
Drops on every brow
Must our efforts show;
Then shall praise by Man be given,
And a blessing come from Heaven.

CHORUS.

Good Master, rightly you advise;
Rely that we'll all zeal attest;
Think what a tell-tale to the skies
If we neglect to do our best.

Our deepest thought we need in casting;
Reflection will great aid supply;
To toil is time and labour wasting
Unless the mind its might apply.

'Tis reason that our nature graces;

There kindred with the skies we claim;

Free in itself the spirit traces

Whate'er the hand shall fitly frame.

SOLO.—Bass.—(THE MASTER.)

Let dry pine logs be selected,
Such the fiercest flames supply,
Which from furnace roof reflected,
Twice the ore's resistance try;
Throw the copper in;
Quickly add the tin;
Then they, mingling as one mass,
To their son'rous nature pass.

CHORUS.

We'll spare no pains; what earth's concealing,
If form'd with all our skill and care,
High in the tower will soon be pealing
Our praises widely through the air:

To distant times life's changes telling,
A warning voice it oft shall raise;
Now on the ear of sorrow knelling,
Now mingling in the anthem's praise:

Whatever in Fate's book is sealed, Cause for joy or cause for woe, Shall by the Bell be first revealed, As from on high be heard below.

SOLO.—Bass.—(The Master.)

See the fire and ores contending!

Now the yielding solids flow;

To ensure a perfect blending

In the aiding potash throw:

Utmost praise to gain,

Let no scum remain;

Then from metal pure and clear

Shall tones melodious charm the ear.

SOLO .- Treble.

Hark! 'tis some birth-day's joyful meeting;
The bells a new-born babe declare;
As thus with sweetest music greeting
Life's young fleet hours, unknown to care:

Ye hours of innocence and pleasure! Our infancy's oft envied treasure; When tend'rest anxious cares are near To guard a morn of life so fair, Which swift as dart shall disappear

SOLO .- Tenor.

That morn has fled—now scorning danger,
The youth from home and playmate speeds,
The world he roams, and then, a stranger,
Again the dear-loved threshold treads:

And there a form of purest grace,
As if just lighted from the skies,
The chaste blush mantling o'er her face,
He sees, and blissful feelings rise:

Tender pains that seem to ease him;
He muses deeply, leaves mankind;
Old companions cease to please him,
His heart new duty now assigned:

The pretty maid that heart has captured;
Her voice is music to his ear;
He wreaths sweet flowers, and then, enraptured,
Presents them on her brow to wear.

DUET .- Treble and Tenor.

Oh tenderest passion known to mortals!

Oh golden hours first blessed with love!

Sure heaven's self then opes its portals,

To give a taste of joys above:

Oh that delight in birth so pure

From all life's changes were secure!

SOLO .- Bass .- (THE MASTER.)

Briskly round the flames are playing;
Now I'll dip my test rod in!
Ah! that gloss the rod displaying,
Shows the casting may begin.
Now, my men, prepare;
Give your utmost care:
As one mass the ores have blended,
Sign which ne'er in failure ended.

SOLO.—Bass.

When metals brittle, ductile, tender,
Thus mutual help and service render,
The Bell with sweetest tone will prove;
So learn ye, ye whose vows are plighted,
That hearts be suited ere united,
Nor risk through haste a life of love.

Lovely 'tis the bride to see,
With the village all delight;
When the bells so merrily
To the nuptial feast invite:

Ah! of life it is the May;
Rich moments lent us from above;
A ray from heaven to gild the way
To endless harmony and love.

SOLO .- Tenor.

Though passion may fly,
Yet love will endure;
The blossom must die,
The fruit to ensure.

To care for sweet home,
And wants that now come,
The husband is striving,
Is plotting, contriving;
To toil is his pleasure,
It leadeth to treasure;
Fortune smiles beyond measure

The sight of his land is plenty and peace;
His coffers o'erflow, friends, riches increase;
His stores all surprise,
Yet new buildings arise.

At home well directing,
Her household inspecting,
Sits the fondest of mothers,
Ever caring for others;
Her children instructing;
Their minds well conducting;
Boys from mischief protected,
With kindness corrected;
She's sewing or spinning,
Day early beginning;
Her neighbours befriending;
Kind help to all lending,
With toil never ending;

Her neat cupboards filling; Her perfumes distilling; And when the day closes, And tired nature reposes, Delight and fresh cheer For her husband appear:

Lovely woman, how fashioned our cares to sustain; Of trials thy nature bids thee never complain.

QUARTETT.—Tenors and Basses.

Now the father with glowing pride,
O'er his land looks with heart delighted
At the blessings on every side:
Noteth his meads where the streamlet is leading,
Where in rich pasture his oxen are feeding;
Marks his vines o'er the plain far extending,
And his corn with earth's bounty bending;

"See," he exclaims, "around, Fortune that scarce has bound; Here in my wide domain Plenty shall long remain."

SEPTETT.

Trebles, Counter-Tenor, Tenors, and Basses.

Vain man to be thus confiding
When so counter Fate's deciding;
All your boasted schemes deriding!

SOLO.—Bass.—(The Master.)

Let the dam, my men, be broken:
Each unto his post repair:
But, before the word be spoken,
Let us join in humble prayer.
Out the plugs be driven;
Be propitious, Heaven!
See the molten torrent splashing!
See the fiery billows dashing!

CHORUS.

How great the might of subtle fire,

To set the captive atoms free,
Of hardest rock, at man's desire,
And give earth's pris'ners liberty:

But fierce and dreadful is that force,

When from control and guidance free,
It rushes headlong on its course,
In all its native anarchy;
Nature's wildest power displaying,
Forth it tears, worse foe than war;
In death and waste whole cities laying,
Undisputed conqueror.
Oft man's work of toil and gain
The elements thus render vain!

See from the clouds! sight appalling,

Torrents falling! Through the Heavens, the tempest height'ning, Darts the lightning! Hark th' alarm bell! awful sound. Warns around: Flames red as blood the skies array! Sad contrast to the glow of day: What a tumult through the town! Hope has flown: Through the streets dense vapour rushing Out the houses fire is gushing; All in desolation hushing! Air as from a furnace blowing: Death his tombs with victims stowing; Roofs are falling-crash replying; Mothers shrieking—children crying; Creatures yelling, crushed and dying ; All is uproar, hurry, flight; Light as day the horrid night: Numbers run, full buckets bringing, Water flinging; Some with engine water throwing, Where the flame on high is growing; Still, still it spreads in frightful form, The tempest feeds it, and it drinks the storm Now the stores of arid grain Yield fresh fuel to the flame; The storm increasing sweeps its way; Uprooted trees its power display: Each gust more furious than the last, Leaves nought to blast;

Hope nor home.

Man to God submissive yieldeth;
Owns the mighty power Heaven wieldeth:
The ruins storm's wild home become.

All around
Razed to ground,
Roofs nor windows now refusing
Free admission to the howling storm:
Horror reigneth, dread diffusing
In every form.

SOLO.—Bass.—Recitative and Quartett.

The suff'rer leaves the spot so late sweet home,
Oft looking back upon his treasure's tomb;
A tear that home now claims he sheds,
As on stranger's land he treads;
But joy returns; he finds around him
All to whom affection bound him,
His wife, his children, safe surround him.

SOLO.—Bass.—(The Master.)

Now dark earth the Bell is hiding;
May the searching light of day
Free from fault the cast deciding,
Well our art and toil repay:
Should the fusion fail,
Or the mould prove frail,
Then the hopes we fondly cherish
Must, like most we treasure, perish.

CHORUS.

In fertile womb of earth confiding,
We now await our hands' good deed,
As trusts the sower in his seed,
Who hopes, kind Heaven's good time abiding,
For blessing as his labour's meed.

But dearer seeds in earth w' intomb—
Far dearer in her bosom lay—
And fondly trust they'll rise and bloom
In joy and bliss some future day.

Hark! the tower's deep-toned bell Tolls some parting pilgrim's knell! Sadly solemn—see what numbers, weeping, One now follow who in death is sleeping.

TREBLE RECITATIVE .- (Accompanied.)

Lo, it is the wife beloved!

Mother, loveliest of her race,
By untimely death removed

From her husband's fond embrace:

From the little rosy troop

Which in healthful day she bare,
Which around her oft did group,
The smile and envied kiss to share.

AIR.

All these tender ties are broken,
Never more fond hearts to chain;
Save indeed such links betoken
They'll meet where all is love, again.

Never more her mild direction
Can that house of sorrow share;
Stranger, wanting her affection,
Can but feign a mother's care

SOLO.—Bass.—(The Master.)

While the Bell is slowly cooling,
Pastime seek, and take your ease;
Now no duty overruling,
Each his inclination please;
Join the cheerful scene
On the village green;
Sports are yours, day's toil releasing,
Care with Master never ceasing.

SOLO.—Treble.

Wearied now with toil of day,
The husbandman home bends his way:
The nightingale her song beginning,
To parting day her vespers singing:
Shepherd to their fold is leading
Flocks that on the mountains feeding,
Shelter from the night were needing;

Laden high with grain,
Home rocks the waggon train:
Wreaths of sweet wild flowers adorn
The sheaves of corn;

Youthful reapers next advance,
And merrily dance,
'I'ill the night within invites them,
And with social tale delights them
All from labour now proposing,
And the city's gates are closing:
Night now bids to tranquil slumbers
All with state's protection blest;
With watchful eye law guards the numbers,
And robs the robber of his rest.

DUET .- Tenor and Bass.

Holy Order! bliss securing—
Heaven's own daughter! man insuring
All those social ties that bind us—
That Heaven on Earth which God designed us,
Who caused the busy town to rise,
Where men the peaceful arts devise;
Who tempted thus to social home,
The savage from his wilds to come;
And wove that dear and sacred band
That binds us to our native land.

CHORUS.

Thousands, when in union joined,
Can mutual aid and thought supply,
Building up with strength combined
The giant tower of industry.

Man like master lives protected Under Freedom's sacred wing; Each contented, laws respected, Honour to their country bring.

Labour should be man's ambition,
For God's blessings are its prize;
Envied though the King's condition,
Health and peace from handcraft rise.

QUARTETT AND CHORUS.

Peace, sweet Concord! thee caressing,
Ever on us shed thy blessing;
Never may that day befall us,
When war from peaceful home shall call us,
Or in this quiet vale appal us;
When the Heavens, which evening paints so fair,
From light of home in flames shall glare.

SOLO.—Bass.—(THE MASTER.)

Let the mould, my men, be broken,
It hath done its duty well;
Soon shall loud huzzas betoken
That we've bared the hidden bell.
Heavy hammers wield,
Till the clay walls yield;
Firmly has the work been guarded:
Richly may we be rewarded.

CHORUS.

The Master, when the mould destroying, Can safely on his skill depend; But woe, when self-freed force employing, The melted ores their prison rend;

'Twould seem some mouth of Hell were gaping,
Whence thunderings belch with dreadful sound
The fiery torrents thence escaping,
To blast and ruin all around.

See when licentious power rages,

When rude brute force the law may give,
Save plunder nought the mob engages,

And traitors spout while robbers thrive.

O Liberty, how thou art treated!
Professed, adored, in every clime,
How oft by foe of country greeted,
To gain a passport to all crime!

The bells now sound for insurrection,

No peaceful call to pray'r and praise;
But mobs with schemes of state's perfection

The standard of rebellion raise;

Freedom, Equality, all bawling—
The public good their high pretence—
From home the peaceful yeoman calling,
To seek in arms his town's defence.

Then woman, all her nature changing,
With tiger's fierceness can appear;
Midst dead and dying, plundered, ranging,
Nor heed, as wont, the suff'rer's prayer.

No longer human ties respected,
Vice revels, owning no control,
The peaceful but in flight protected,
And crimes in fearful torrents roll.

To meet the roaring lion's dreadful,
Or fall within the tiger's paw:
But worse to meet, nor flight less needful,
Man, when brute passion is his law.

Then woe to those who, disaffected,

The reckless mob to licence urge;

To cloak ambition schemes projected,

That soon become a country's scourge.

SOLO.—Bass.—(The Master.)

To our labour's end now verging,
See the Bell, a golden star,
From its shell of clay emerging,
Long our praise to sound afar;
On its surface bright
Plays the radiant light;
And the arms, devices, name,
All boldly raised, bespeak our fame.

RECITATIVE.—Bass.—(The Master.)

Hurrah! Hurrah!
Our work is done, all peril's past,
Now to the welcome christ'ning haste:
Its name shall be CONCORDIA.

SOLO.—Bass.—(The Master.)
Repeated in Chorus.

And long may Concord and her blissful train With joyful peals the village entertain.

SOLO.—Bass.—(THE MASTER.)

Henceforth shall the Bell attend on Fate;
Its iron lips her deeds shall state:
Soon high above the earth in splendour
With conscious pride we'll see it rise;
The rolling mighty thunder's neighbour,
The guest, the tenant of the skies.

There oft a voice to God be raising,
Joining the chorus of the spheres
That ceaseless roll, their Maker praising,
And with them lead the circling years.

Eternal things of import high
It shall announce in voice sublime;
On it each hour in passing by
Shall strike, and give a tongue to time.

And though within itself no feeling,
By turns all feelings shall it move;
Lend Fate a tongue, and tolling, pealing
The chequered life of mortals prove.

And as its circling transient chords
Upon the listening ear decay,
So learn that all this earth affords
Unfixed as sound shall pass away.

Now with tackle all upheaving, Soon the Bell aloft shall swing; Let the skies, their guest receiving, With his first vibrations ring.

CHORUS.

See! see! it quits the ground For the lofty realms of sound: There enthroned may't oft be pealing, Blessings of sweet peace revealing.

THE LAY OF THE BELL.

"The most original and beautiful, perhaps, of all Schiller's Poems, unequalled by anything of Goethe's, is called 'The Lay of the Bell,' a varying irregular lyric strain. The casting of a Bell is, in Germany, an event of solemnity and rejoicing. In the neighbourhood of the Hartz and the other mine districts, you read formal announcements in the newspapers from Bell Founders, that at a given time and spot a casting is to take place, to which they invite all their friends. An entertainment out of doors is prepared and held with much festivity. Schiller, in a few short stanzas, forming a sort of Chorus, describes the whole process of the melting, the casting, and the cooling of the Bel, with a technical truth and a felicity of expression, in which the sound of the sharp sonorous rhymes and expressive epithets constantly form an echo to the sense. Between these technical processes he breaks forth into the most beautiful episodaic pictures of the various scenes of life, with which the sounds of the Bell are connected."

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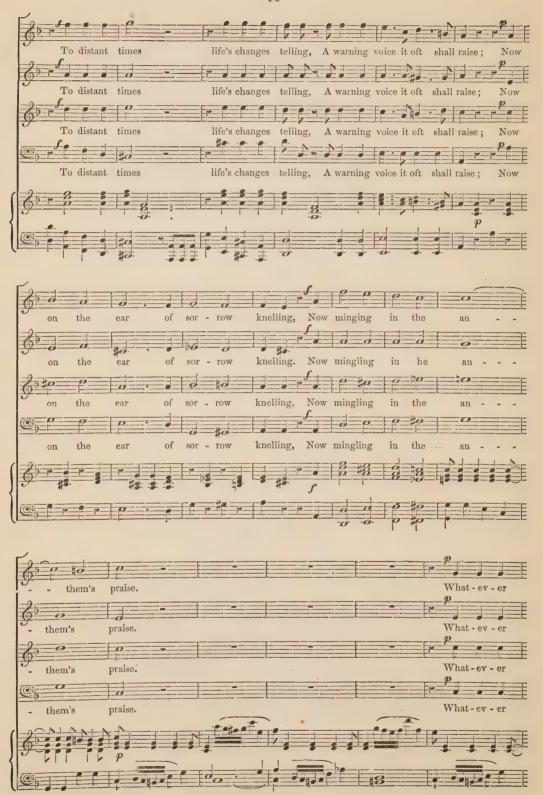
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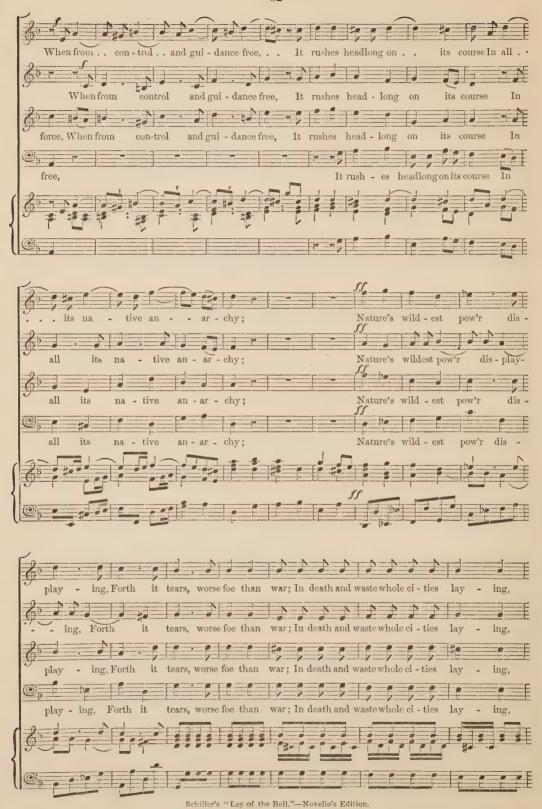
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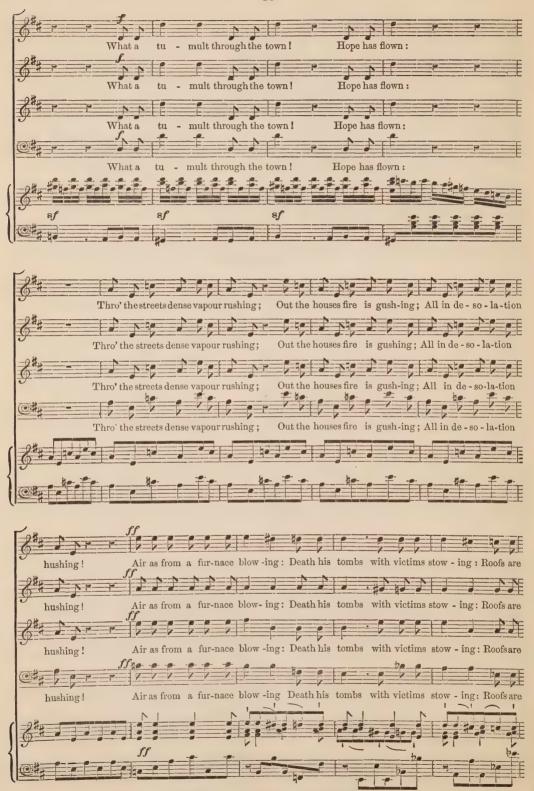




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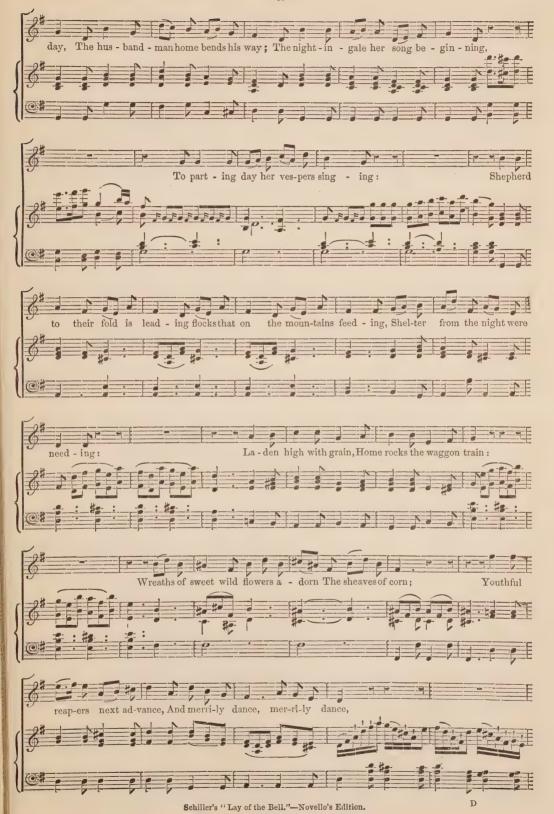


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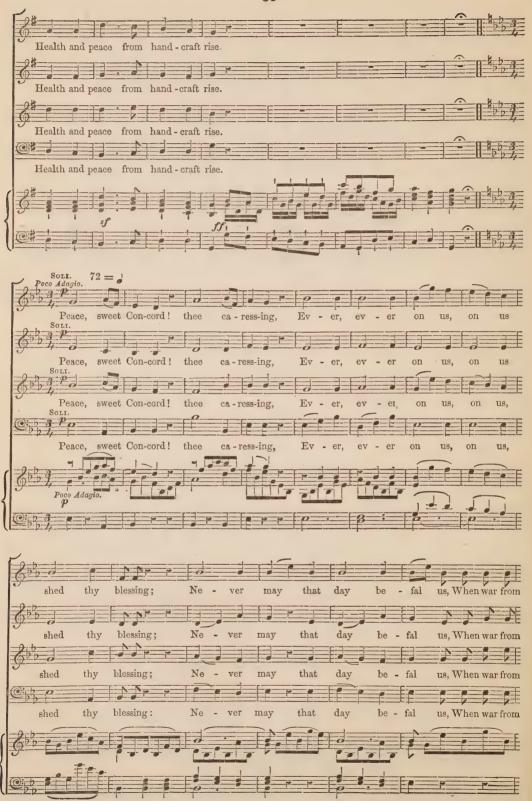


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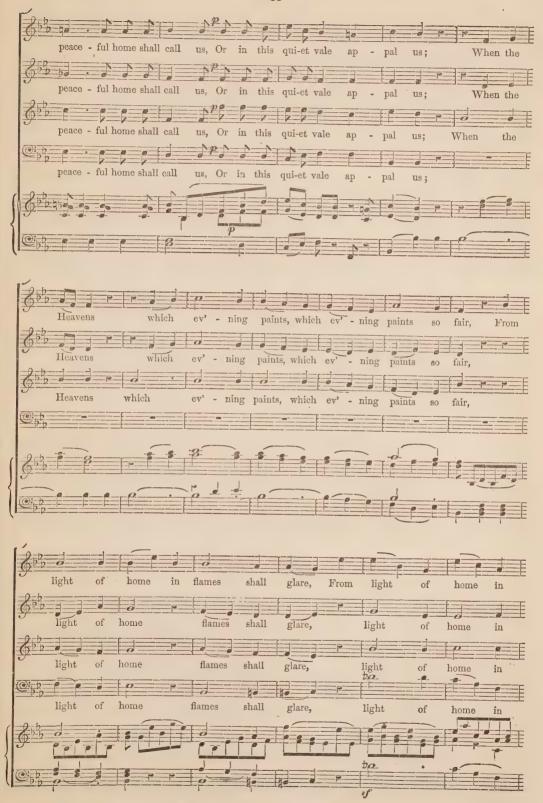




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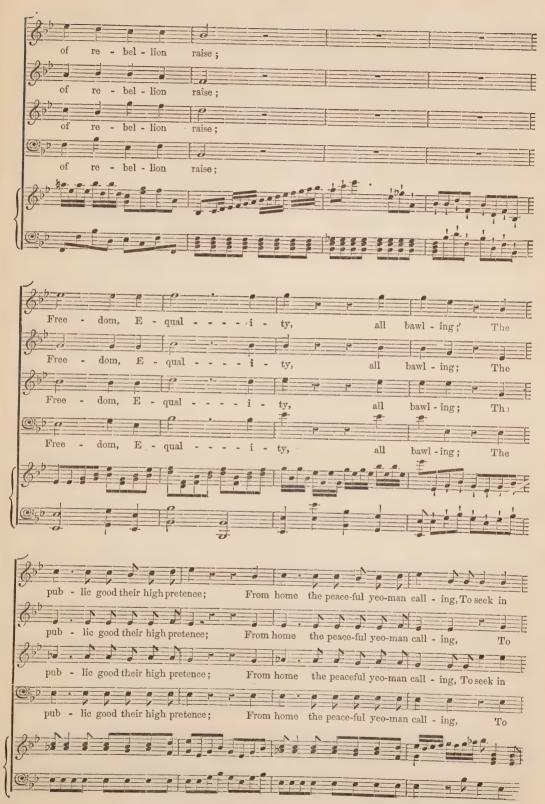


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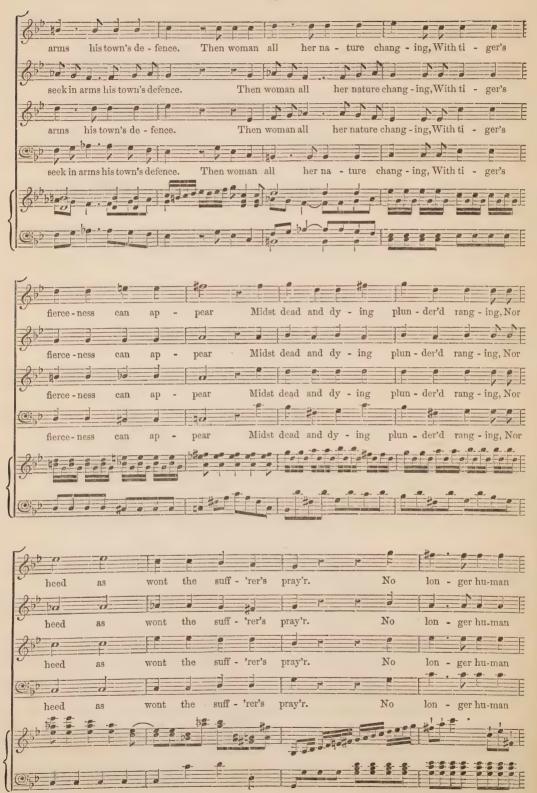


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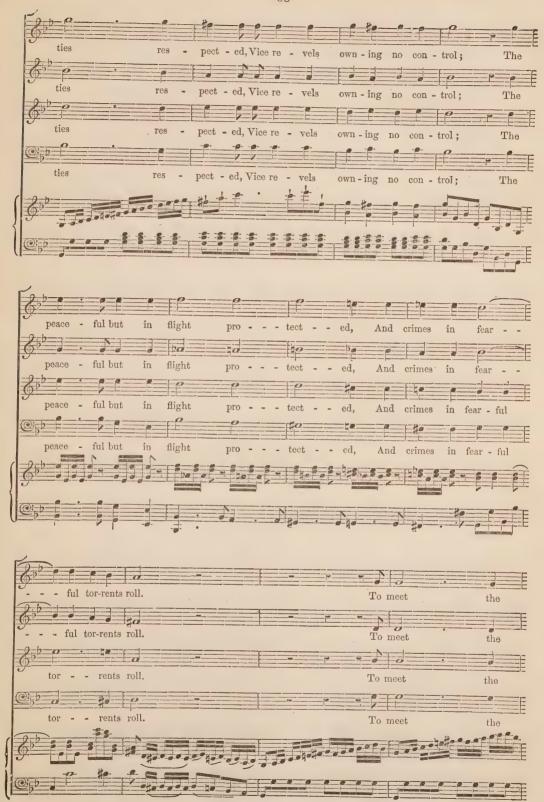




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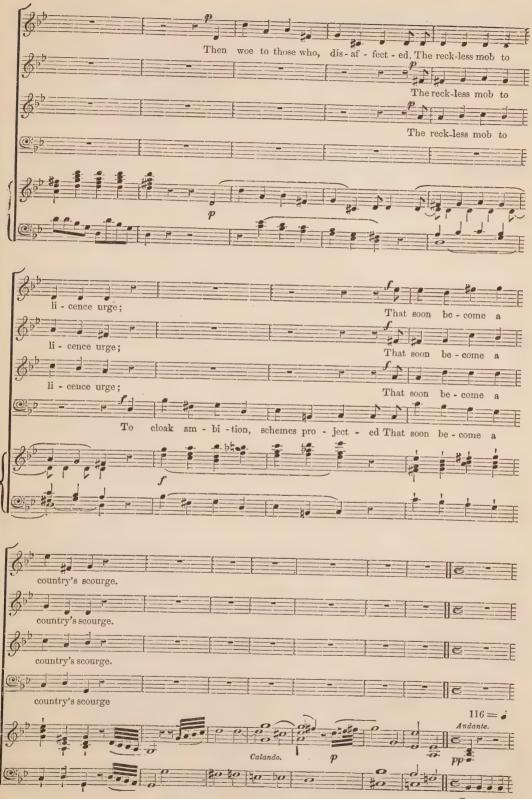


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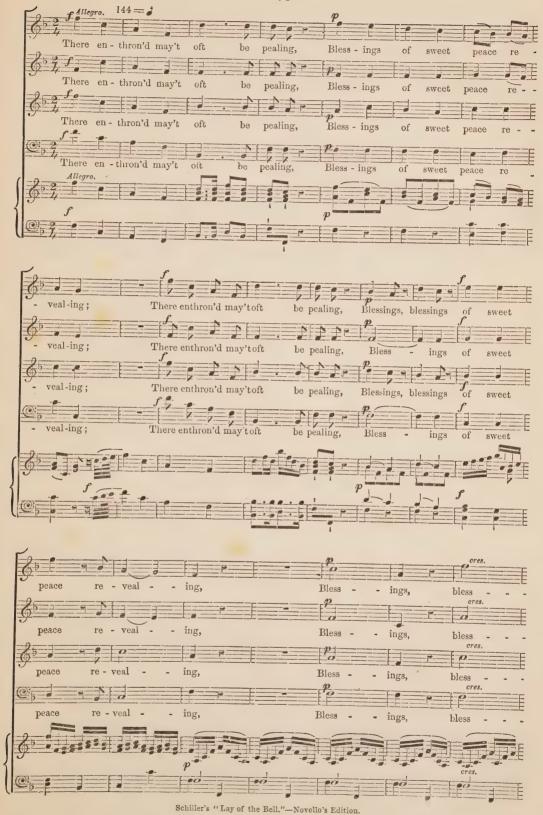
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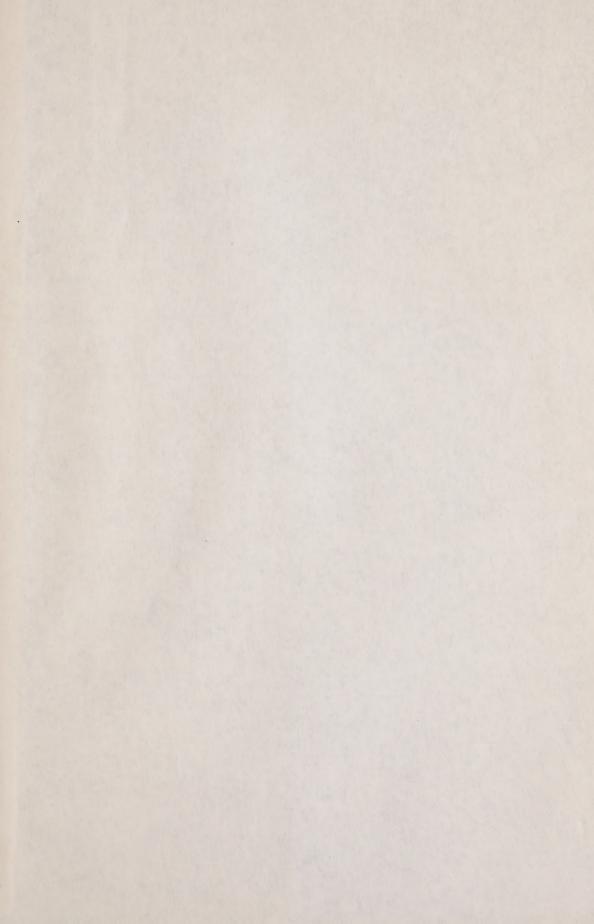
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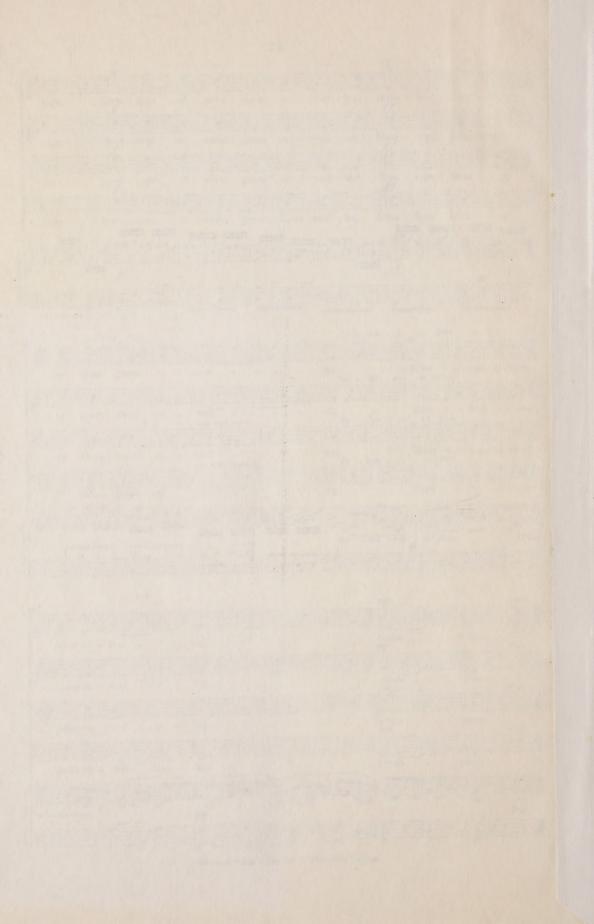


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